

Appln No. 09/676,697

Amdt date December 21, 2004

Reply to Office action of September 21, 2004

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1 of the specification, please delete lines 5 - 7.

On page 14 of the specification, please amend the paragraph beginning in line 1 as follows:

However, if more than one station contends, then a collision is sensed (by collision detect 204 in each transmitting station). For example, the hybrid 209 separates the received signal from the transmitted signal produced by modulator 205, and a collision is detected by the presence of received energy from other transmitting stations. In another embodiment, the collision detect 204 augments the hybrid by subtracting an echo replica of the transmitted signal.[[.]] In FIG. 4, a collision on the shared channel is indicated by reference numeral 406. Immediately following the collision, a series of signal slots are used to signal between colliding stations to resolve the collision. These slots are shown as S0, S1 (identified by reference numeral 404), and S2. Immediately following the sequence of signal slots, contention slots restart at priority 7. Assuming no priority 7 station has become active, then a subset of the stations contending in slot 402 retry transmission in slot 408. If the number of contending stations has been reduced to one, a successful packet is sent (e.g., PACKET 407), otherwise another collision occurs as indicated by reference numeral 403, and the collision resolution protocol is re-invoked.